BEFORE THE TENNESSEE REGULATORY AUTHORITY AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

October 5, 2001

IN RE:)	
PETITION FOR APPROVAL OF THE INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT)	DOCKET NO. 01-00598
THERETO NEGOTIATED BETWEEN BELLSOUTH TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. AND LIGHTYEAR)	01-00376
COMMUNICATIONS, INC. PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 251 AND 252 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996)	

ORDER APPROVING INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT AND AMENDMENT THERETO

This matter came before the Tennessee Regulatory Authority (the "Authority") upon the Petition for approval of the Interconnection Agreement ("Agreement") and Amendment thereto ("Amendment") negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Lightyear Communications, Inc. The Petition for approval of the Agreement and Amendment came before the Authority pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252.

The Agreement and Amendment were considered at a regularly scheduled Authority Conference held on September 11, 2001, in Nashville, Tennessee before Chairman Sara Kyle, Director H. Lynn Greer, Jr., and Director Melvin J. Malone. The Authority has jurisdiction over public utilities pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 65-4-104 *et seq.* Based upon the Petition, the record in this matter, and the standards for review set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252, the Directors unanimously approved the Agreement and Amendment and made the following findings and conclusions:

1) The Agreement and Amendment are in the public interest as they provide consumers with alternative sources of telecommunications services within the BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. service area;

2) The Agreement and Amendment are not discriminatory to telecommunications service providers that are not parties thereto;

3) No party has sought intervention in this docket;

4) Approval of the Agreement and Amendment is consistent with Sections 251 and 252 of the Act; and

5) The Agreement and Amendment satisfy the standards for approval of negotiated interconnection agreements set forth in 47 U.S.C. §§ 251 and 252.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

The Interconnection Agreement and Amendment thereto negotiated by and between BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Lightyear Communications, Inc. are approved and are subject to the review of the Authority as provided herein.

Sara Kyle, Chairman

H. Jnn Oreer, Jr., Director

Melvin J. Majone, Director

ATTEST:

K. David Waddell, Executive Secretary

¹ This Interconnection Agreement is approved as a negotiated agreement signed by both parties and consistent with Sections 251 and 252 of the Act. It does not, however, reflect previous Authority rulings on the issue of provisioning elements that BellSouth currently combines.